Claims

1. Use of the compounds of the following formula (I):

$$R_0HN$$
 R_1
 R_3
 R_4
 R_5
 R_5

wherein X represents OH, (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, NH₂, NH- C_{1-5} -alkyl, N(C_{1-5} alkyl)₂;

 R_1 is a residue derived from any of the amino acids Phe, Tyr, Trp, Pro, each of which may optionally be substituted by a (C_{1-5}) alkoxy group, a (C_{1-5}) alkyl group or a halogen atom, and Ala, Val, Leu, or Ile;

 R_2 is a residue which is derived from any of the amino acids Gly, Ala, Ile, Val, Ser, Thr, His, Arg, Lys, Pro, Glu, Gln, pGlu, Asp, Leu and Asn;

 R_3 and R_4 independently represent H, OH, $(C_{1-}C_{5})$ alkyl, or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, provided that R_3 and R_4 are not both OH or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy;

 R_5 represents H, OH, (C_{1-5}) alkyl or (C_{1-5}) alkoxy;

and wherein R₀ represents a group of the formula

wherein Y represents -CO-, -CH₂CO-, -CH₂CH₂CO-, -CH₂CH₂CO-, -CH₂CH₂CO-, -CH=CH-CO or -OCH₂CO-, and wherein Z represents a halogen atom, a trifluormethyl group, (C_{1-4}) alkoxy group, (C_{1-4}) alkyl group; or wherein two neighbouring substituents may form a (C_{1-3}) alkylendioxy group; and wherein n is 0 or an integer of from 1 to 5; or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

for the preparation of a medicament useful in the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases.

- 2. The use according to claim 1, wherein R_1 is a residue derived from any of the amino acids Phe, Tyr, Trp, each of which may optionally be substituted by a (C_{1-5}) alkoxy group, a (C_{1-5}) alkyl group or a halogen atom, or a residue derived from the amino acid Ile.
- 3: The use according to claim 2, wherein R_1 is a residue derived from Phe which may optionally be substituted by a (C_{1-5}) alkoxy group, a (C_{1-5}) alkyl group or a halogen atom.
- 4. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein X is (C_{1-5}) alkoxy, NH₂, NH-C₁₋₅-alkyl, or N(C₁₋₅ alkyl)₂.
- $_{5}$. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein \mathbf{R}_{2} is a residue derived from the amino acid Gly or Ile.
- 6. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein R_0 is a cinnamoyl moiety.
- 7. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the compound of formula (I) is cinnamoyl-glycyl-L-phenylalanyl-L-prolinamide, cinnamoyl-isoleucyl-phenylalanyl-

L-proline ethylamide, cinnamoyl-isoleucyl-isoleucyl-prolineamide, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.